

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 COME-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00
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COMMERCE/BEWT FOR STEIN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECE CSC EEWT EFIN
SUBJECT: ECE MEETING OF GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL CONTRACT
PRACTICES, GENEVA, 9-13 MAY 1977

REF: (A) 76 GENEVA 9265, (B) STATE 094653

1. SUMMARY: TWELFTH SESSION OF GROUP OF EXPERTS ON
INTERNATIONAL CONTRACT PRACTICES IN INDUSTRY TOOK PLACE
MAY 9-13. MAIN TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WAS SECOND VERSION OF
PRELIMINARY DRAFT GUIDE FOR DRAWING UP INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTS
BETWEEN PARTIES ASSOCIATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF REXECUTING A
SPECIFIC PROJECT. SECOND VERSION OF DRAFT GUIDE WAS SUBJECTED
TO SAME CLAUSE BY CLAUSE ANALYSIS AS FIRST VERSION HAD BEEN
AT NOVEMBER 1976 MEETING OF THE GROUP. NEXT VERSION OF GUIDE
WILL BE CONSIDERED AT 13TH SESSION OF GROUP IN JANUARY 1978
END SUMMARY

2. TWELFTH SESSION OF GROUP OF EXPERTS OPENED ON MAY 9 WITH ADOPTION
OF AGENDA AND RE-ELECTION OF FRG REPRESENTATIVE
H. STUMPF AS CHAIRMAN AND HUGARIAN REPRESENTATIVE I. SZASZ AS
VVICE -CHAIRMAN. GROUP LOST ONE-HALF WORKING DAY BECUASE
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OF DELAY IN TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH OF SECOND VERSION
OF PRELIMINARY DRFT GUIDE FOR DRAWING UP INTERNATIONAL
CONTRACTS BETWEEN PARTIES ASSOCIATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF
EXECUTING A SPECIFIC PROJECT. RUSSIAN VERSION WAS STILL
UNAVAILABLE AS OF CLOSE OF SESSION.)

3. GROUP HEARD REPORT FROM STUMPF ON RECENT EEC-ARAB

LEAGUE MEETING ON SUBJECT OF ADAPTING ECE GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR USE IN ARABIC-EUROPEAN TRADE. (NOTE: THIS DEVELOPMENT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO USDOC/CAGNE AND OTHER USG AGENCIES.) GENERAL DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE HARMONIZATION OF VARIOUS SETS OF GENERAL CONDITIONS AND FORM CONTRACTS FOLLOWED, SECRETARIAT ALSO REPORTED ON FEBRUARY 1977 APPROVAL BY ASIAN - AFRICAN LEGAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (AALOC) OF STANDARD FORM F.O.B. AND F.A.S. SALES CONTRACTS FOR CERTAIN COMMODITIES (E.G. GRAIN, RUBBER, SPICES). CONSENSUS OF GROUP WAS THAT GROUP WOULD FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER FORA AND OFFER TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS UNCITRAL AND AALCC, BUT THAT GROUP COULD NOT TAKE INITIATIVE UNTIL AFTER MATTER IS CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT TRADE, PRESUMABLY AT NOVEMBER 1977 MEETING.

4. GROUP SPENT MOST OF TIME ON LINE-BY-LINE ANALYSIS OF SECOND VERSION OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT GUIDE. SOVIET DELEGATION, DESPITE ABSENCE OF RUSSIAN TEXT, AGREED TO TAKE PART IN DISCUSSION SINCE "WE ALWAYS TAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE, PRACTICAL APPROACH." IN FACT, SOVIET PARTICIPATION WAS MINIMAL, AND MOST ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS WERE BELGIAN, GDR, AND UK DELEGATES. AS AT PREVIOUS SESSION, IDEOLOGICAL FACTORS WERE FOR THE MOST PART ABSENT DURING LARGELY TECHNICAL LEGAL DISCUSSIONS.

5. ON THE BASIS OF THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE GUIDE AT THIS SESSION, THE SECRETARIAT WILL PREPARE A NEW VERSION WHICH WILL BE REPRODUCED AS AN ANNEX TO THE FINAL UNCLASSIFIED

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REPORT ON THE SESSION. DELEGATIONS WILL THEN HAVE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30 TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO THE NEW VERSION. THE NEW VERSION AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT SESSION OF THE GROUP TO BE HELD IN JANUARY 1978. FINAL REPORT AND ANNEX SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN ABOUT A MONTH. SORENSON

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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